

Lyon Guidance – Cleaning and disinfecting Lyon Brand products during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Hospital disinfection methods for COVID-19 virus contaminated items involve very high temperatures (>150°C) and use of aggressive chemicals such as Chlorines. Such methods risk serious damage to many of our products.

Having considered currently available scientific and medical information, Lyon Equipment Limited provide the following guidance on product cleaning and disinfecting during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The guidance aims to reduce the risk of contamination from residual COVID-19 virus and prevent potential damage to the product. We cannot guarantee elimination of all hazard and risk.

Further information is available from your local health authorities concerning low temperature disinfection protocols.

Suggested method

Step 1.

Place the product in secure quarantine for 72 hours at normal room temperature. Current medical advice indicates the virus is likely to die naturally within this timescale. Colder temperatures may prolong the life of the virus.

Step 2:

For POLYESTER and POLYAMIDE products:

Wash the product in a washing machine with natural soap only (pH range of 5.5 and 8.5) at 60°C for a minimum of 15 minutes. To reduce the risk of abrasion damage whilst cleaning, place the products inside a protective fabric cover e.g. pillowcase. Always ensure the washing machine is free from other washing liquid/tablet and softener residues to avoid contamination.

For DYMEEMA products:

Wash the product in a washing machine with natural soap only (pH range of 5.5 and 8.5) at 30°C for a minimum of 30 minutes. To reduce the risk of abrasion damage whilst cleaning, place the products inside a protective fabric cover e.g. pillowcase. Always ensure the washing machine is free from other washing liquid/tablet and softener residues to avoid contamination.

For METALLIC products:

Metallic products can be cleaned using clinical disinfectant wipes or disinfectant. Be aware that Chlorine based chemicals can cause corrosion/cracking of some stainless steel components. Check the ingredients with the manufacturer. Immersion in the correct temperature water and soap solution is impracticable.

Step 3:

Dry the product following the information provided in the General User instructions.

Please note: This 60°C washing method is different from the recommendations written in our General User instructions and is an exceptional measure during the COVID-19 crisis.

We do not recommend using this method for 'general' cleaning, and suggest product is exposed to this elevated temperature cleaning method a maximum of 10 times. Under normal circumstances the maximum wash temperature is 30°C.

We do not advise hand washing product due to the difficulties of maintaining the minimum temperature water required and the additional physical contact with the product.

Cleaning with Isopropyl (or Isopropanol) alcohol

It has been suggested that immersion of products in Isopropyl (or Isopropanol) alcohol is effective in destroying the COVID-19 virus.

Short term immersion (60 seconds) may not significantly weaken Polyamide, Polyester and Dyneema; however, this method could cause deterioration over time if carried out repeatedly.

The safe handling of Isopropyl (or Isopropanol) alcohol in volume, and the process of immersion, handling and drying create numerous health and safety risks. Lyon therefore cannot recommend this method of cleaning and disinfecting.

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